



Centre for the Study of
Labour and Mobility

CESLAM Kathmandu Migration Conference 2022

Summary Report

The fourth edition of the **CESLAM Kathmandu Migration Conference** organized by the Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility (CESLAM) at Social Science Baha was successfully held on **Wednesday, 16 February 2022** and **Thursday, 17 February 2022**. Given the health restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the two-day conference was organized as an online event held on Zoom. The conference was held for around three hours in the evening of the 16th of February (7:30 to 10:30 pm Nepal Time) and the 17th of February 2022 (7:30 to 10:05 pm Nepal Time).

The conference had four panel discussions in total and two panel discussions were held on each day. Nirmal Man Tuladhar, Chair, Social Science Baha, initiated the conference with his welcome remarks.

Of the two panels held on the first day, the first panel themed Health and Wellbeing of Migrant Workers consisted of three papers and lasted for 80 minutes. The panel was chaired by Uma Pradhan, Department Lecturer in South Asian Studies at the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies, University of Oxford. Likewise, the second panel for the day themed Cross Border Mobility and Human Trafficking consisted of three papers and lasted for 80 minutes. This panel was chaired by Padam Simkhada, Professor of Global Health at the University of Huddersfield, UK.

On the second day of the conference, two panel discussions were held. The first panel themed Experiences of Migrant Workers and Families consisted of three papers and lasted for 80 minutes. The panel was chaired by Kailash Chandra Das, Professor, Department of Migration and Urban Studies, International Institute of Population Sciences, India. The second panel for the day themed Migration Process of Nepali Men and Women consisted of two papers and lasted for 55 minutes. The panel was chaired by Hari Dhungana, Associate Professor, Faculty of Management and Law at Nepal Open University.

The conference formally ended after Sadikshya Bhattarai, Research Officer at the Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility at Social Science Baha, offered closing remarks.

The first day of the conference was attended by 125 people from 14 countries, and the second day of the conference was attended by 102 people from 11 countries. The detail about the participants is presented in the tables below. (Note: These numbers include the paper presenters, chairs, discussants and members of the organizing team.)

Day 1: 16 February 2022

| S. No. | Country | Number of Participants |
|--------|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Canada | 2 |
| 2 | Denmark | 1 |
| 3 | France | 1 |
| 4 | Germany | 3 |
| 5 | Hong Kong SAR | 2 |
| 6 | India | 8 |
| 7 | Japan | 3 |
| 8 | Malaysia | 4 |
| 9 | Nepal | 85 |
| 10 | Netherlands | 2 |
| 11 | Spain | 1 |
| 12 | Thailand | 1 |
| 13 | United Kingdom | 8 |
| 14 | United States | 4 |
| Total | | 125 |

Day 2: 17 February 2022

| S. No. | Country | Number of Participants |
|--------|-----------|------------------------|
| 1 | Canada | 5 |
| 2 | Germany | 3 |
| 3 | India | 8 |
| 4 | Japan | 3 |
| 5 | Malaysia | 3 |
| 6 | Nepal | 65 |
| 7 | Singapore | 3 |
| 8 | Spain | 1 |
| 9 | Thailand | 1 |
| 10 | UK | 6 |
| 11 | US | 4 |
| Total | | 102 |

CESLAM Kathmandu Migration Conference 2022
16-17 February 2022

Schedule
(All times are in Nepal time)

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| Day 1: 16 February 2022 (Wednesday) 7.30 pm–10:30 pm |
| 7:30 to 7:35 pm Welcome remarks: Nirmal Man Tuladhar Chair, Social Science Baha |
| Panel 1: Health and Well-Being of Migrant Workers 7:35–8:55 pm Chair: Uma Pradhan Departmental Lecturer in South Asian Studies, Oxford School of Global and Area Studies, University of Oxford |
| 1. Issues on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Nepali Migrants in Japan Masako Tanaka , <i>Professor, Sophia University, Japan</i> 2. Pre-departure Psychological Distress, Associated Factors and Perception of Risk Factors at Workplace among Migrant Workers of Nepal Om Poudel , <i>Independent Scholar</i> 3. Nepali Migrant Returnees' Psychological Distress and Stressor Khagendra Acharya , <i>Kathmandu University</i> |
| Break: 8:55 to 9:10 pm |
| Panel 2: Cross-Border Mobility and Human Trafficking 9:10–10:30 pm Chair: Padam Simkhada Professor of Global Health, University of Huddersfield, UK |
| 4. Nexus between Migration and Trafficking and its Impacts on Socio-Psychology of Nepalls Aman Kumar , <i>Centre Coordinator, Child Rights Centre, Chanakya National Law University, India</i> 5. In-migration in Nepal from Neighbouring Indian States: A Study on Labour Migration from India to Nepal Tushar Dakua , <i>PhD Scholar, International Institute for Population Studies, India</i> Kailash Chandra Das , <i>Professor, International Institute for Population Studies, India</i> 6. Human Trafficking for Labour Migration: A Media Analysis of How International Routes from Nepal Have Changed Arjun Kharel , Sadikshya Bhattarai , Prajesh Aryal , Sudhir Shrestha , <i>Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility</i> ; Pauline Oosterhoff , <i>Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex</i> ; Karen Snyder , <i>Snyder Consulting, Canada</i> |

Day 2: 17 February 2022 (Thursday)

7:30 pm–10:05 pm

Panel 1: Experiences of Migrant Workers and Families

7:35–8:55 pm

Chair: Kailash Chandra Das

Professor, Department of Migration & Urban Studies, International Institute for Population Sciences

1. Return Mobility in Nepal: Dismantling the Myth

Alba Castellsague Bonada, *Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Girona, Spain*

2. Impact of Covid-19 upon the Migrant Bharias (Porters) In Darjeeling Town

Ambika Rai, *PhD Scholar, University of North Bengal*

3. Impact of Parents' Migration on Children Left Behind in Nepal: A Case Study of Private Boarding School

Dinu Bajracharya, *Associate Researcher, Sophia University, Japan*

Break: 8:55–9:10 pm

Panel 2: Migration Process of Nepali Men and Women

9:10–10:05 pm

Chair: Hari Dhungana Associate Professor, Faculty of Management and Law, Nepal Open University

4. Visual Anthropology of Migration Histories: Discovering Mobilities of Nepali Women through Visuals

Sanjay Sharma, *PhD Candidate, National University of Singapore*

5. Selling Opportunities and Networking Trust: Brokering Labour from Nepal

Kathrin Fischer, *Doctoral Candidate, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Centre on Migration, Policy & Society, University of Oxford*

10:05 pm

Closing remarks